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"THE TELEPHONE GIRL" - MAY -5 1924

by

H. C. Witwer

No. 7. "FOR THE LOVE OF MIKE"

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(No. 7. The Telephone Girl

Story by H. C. Witwer
Scenario by Darryl Francis Zanuck
Directed by Mal St. Clair
Photographed by Lee Garmes
Released by Film Booking Offices
Reels 2/
Footage Released - May 25, 1924.

"FOR THE LOVE OF MIKE"

CASI

Gladys	Alberta Vaughn
Hazel	Gertrude Short
Jerry	Albert Cooke
Jimmy	Kit Guard
Mike	Eric St. Clair
Captain	Larry McGrath

"FOR THE LOVE OF MIKE"

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The telephone girls and their pals are back from their brief call on Europe. It is night when the ship bearing Gladys Murgatroyd, and her pals, Hazel Killian, Jerry Murphy and Jimmie Burns, lands at the New York docks. Jerry and Jimmie are in the lead and hurry away to look after the luggage. Just as the girls are about to step off the gangplank an elbow roughly brushes them apart and it is followed by the reeling body of Kid Ruff, a prize fighter, who steps between the girls.

Jimmie and Jerry who are standing near the warehouse door, happen to look that way just in time to see the bruiser pinch Gladys under the chin. They hasten to her rescue and a few moments later Kid Ruff 'accidentlly' lands in the water between the ship and the wharf. This feat accomplished the two boys go on their way. The girls gather up their belongings and hail a cab. As they are about to settle back in their seats the door opposite from the one through which they have entered, is opened and in staggers the wet, reeling figure of Kid Ruff. The girls scream and the driver of the taxi stops the car and yanks the bruiser out of the cab and knocks him out cold. Gladys looks the chaufteur over with an admiring gaze and tells him that he should be a prize fighter. He smiles and with a slight shrug of his shoulders tells her that he is Mike McGann, the light heavyweight champion of the world.

Kid Ruff moves slightly, causing Mike to look down at his victim. When he sees a huge mole on Ruff's shoulder, he turns pale and as he hustles the girls into the taxi he tells them that it is bad luck for eleven years to hit a man with a mole on his shoulder. The girls laugh as they whirl away with the superstitious Mike.

At the Hotel St. Moe the following day, Gladys and Hazel are back at the switchboard. The plugs and switches are neglected while the girls receive a warm welcome from the hotel guests. Jerry, the house detective and Jimmie, the bellhop are parading about trying to look important.

In the midst of all the commotion, Mike McGann, the taxi driver, comes into the lobby. Gladys notices at once that all the men deliberately turn away as Mike comes to the switchboard to return her greeting. Jerry flashes his badge on Mike and tells him to beat it. When Gladys makes a protest, Jerry shows her

the morning paper with a picture of Mike and the caption: YELLOW CHAMP BACKS DOWN AGAIN. Gladys cannot believe her eyes. However, yellow or not, Mike has tefriended her and she defends him.

From Mike's mother Gladys learns that the reason Mike has refused to fight is because he won the championship on his twelfth fight and that he is so superstitious that he cannot bring himself to fight his thirteenth.

After much persuading, Gladys enlists Jerry as Mike's manager, and Jimmie as his trainer, in her plan to reinstate Mike in the ring. Mike consents to fight the thirteenth fight under an assumed name with some unknown fighter in a hick town in New Jersey.

When he enters the ring and sees that his opponent is Kid Ruff, he starts to back down again, but he is forced to go through with it, and fearing to hit Ruff because he has the mole on his shoulder, he takes the beating of his life.

When he returns to New York with the news of his defeat, Gladys is dumbfounded but now that the thirteenth fight is over Mike is 'rarin' to go' and they make plans for a big come back.

Jerry has convinced the New York Boxing Commission that Wite deserves one more chance to prove that he is not yellow. Mike is matched with the Masked Marvel and is confident that he will win. Gladys and Hazel and Mike's mother are in ringside seats. Mike enters the ring last and the referee calls the fighters together for instructions. One of the seconds accidentally pulls off the mask and Mike goes pale when he sees Ruff once again before him. Ruff nearly does a flip flop when he realizes that he has been a world champion for a month and didn't know it.

The gong sounds and the fight is on. Mike is trembling with fear and Gladys sees this. A whispered word with Mike's mother gives Gladys a happy thought. At the end of the first round she hurries to Mike's corner and reminds him that his father was a blacksmith and handled horseshoes all his life and that he should be the most lucky fighter in the world.

Her words have the desired effect. Mike flashes a look of gratitude toward Gladys and as the bell for the second round sounds, Mike leaps out of his corner, a new light shining in his eyes.

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The fighters meet half-way. Mike squares off and levels a mighty right on the truiser's chin and down goes Kid Ruff and there he stays as the referee counts him out...

The next day in a picturesque corner of the city park, Mike and Gladys exchange affectionate glances as he tells her that she is responsible for his success.

The End.

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MAT -5 1924

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